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NOT NECESSARILY PARTISAN.

It is amusing to see the eagerness with which the Democratic newspapers seize upon every act of President McKinley's Administration in their desire to make a point against the Republican party, but it is still more amusing to see the same papers attacking it from exactly different grounds. For instance, the Norfolk Pilot, an intense Democratic paper, of the free silver type, is bitter in denouncing the President because he landed troops on Chinese soil to protect American citizens from massacre, while the Locomotive, another paper of the same city, which also supports Bryan and is to be severely criticized for not making more haste in sending troops to the relief of American citizens in China.—Spirit of the Valley.

So far as The Virginian-Pilot is concerned, it would have condemned a Democratic President for doing what Mr. McKinley has done. In condemnation of Mr. McKinley it has been partisan only in the sense that it believes Mr. McKinley's unwarranted assumption of authority to declare war to be a logical result of the principles to which the Republican party professes allegiance. In a Democratic President such an assumption of a power delegated to Congress would have been monstrous and unnatural, as was Cleveland's use of Federal troops at Chicago. Mr. McKinley is a Republican, and his party is chargeable with his official misdeeds, unless it shall see fit to repudiate them. It certainly shows no disposition of that sort.

When the order to MacArthur to send troops to China was promulgated The Virginian-Pilot promptly took the ground that the action was unauthorized, and was a most dangerous precedent, not alone for Republicans who may be chosen President hereafter, but for Democrats as well. It asserted that the sending of the troops meant war, and that it was no part of the President's business to make war. It was not a particularly popular or pleasant position to take, and was sure to be misunderstood and misrepresented, as it has been, doubtless quite unintentionally, by our Valley contemporary. Nevertheless, both the course of events in China and the sober second thought of our own people, have abundantly justified that position. It has become plain that without accomplishing any good purpose whatsoever, this country has been made a party to what is proving a most bloody war, American soldiers have laid down their lives, gallantly as they always do, because "it was orders," more troops are being hurried to the seat of war, while the Administration laments its inability to send at least an army corps. Mr. McKinley is making war on China, and he is endangering, rather than protecting, American lives thereby. That is the situation. If it were the purpose of the Administration to save the lives and property of Americans rather than to make this country a party by direct participation in what may eventuate in China, it is strange that it did not urge upon other countries more strongly the necessity of giving Japan a free hand as a mandatory power.

Policies are judged by what they accomplish. Mr. McKinley's policy in this matter has merely infuriated the Chinese, without possibility of accomplishing the rescue of the Americans at Peking. It has been at once radical and timid. If war was justified or necessary in the circumstances, then it should have been made by Congress, and on a scale very different from that which made possible the disaster to the Ninth Infantry at Tien Tsin. Futilely and in defiance of precedent, authority and prudence, the United

States has been projected into a broil, the most serious of a half a century. That this was done by a Republican does not matter. It has been done, and it cannot be approved without making for the conversion of the Republic into a virtual elective autocracy. There has been since the Civil War a gradual encroachment of the Presidency on the powers of Congress. Give the President the war-making power, a large army, thousands of appointive places in the "colonies," besides those at home, and you make him the practical master of the country. That is a result to be avoided at all hazards, whether the President is to be Democrat or Republican.

The Virginian-Pilot does not believe it any of Mr. McKinley's business to use United States troops to police China or shoot its people, with whom we are declared to be at peace. It sees nothing to be gained for civilization by butchery for the mere sake of revenge. It distrusts men who prate of a new "crusade," for political effect. Above all, it views with alarm the doctrine that the President can make war without convening Congress, and can use the army, navy and treasury of the United States to prosecute that war, alone or in conjunction with other nations. And it is quite willing to trust to time and events to vindicate its judgment.

THE DISBANDING OF THE GOLD DEMOCRATS.

The decision of the so-called "Gold Democrats" at Indianapolis not to put a Presidential ticket in the field this year means the extinction of their organization. It is hardly to be taken as an indication that the Gold Democrats will return en masse to their former allegiance. They will go to the Democratic or the Republican party according to individual preference. It is to be borne in mind that the Republicans have been calling loudly on the Gold Democrats not to put out a ticket this year, and their action is to be viewed, to a certain extent, in that light.

Both Democrats and Republicans will doubtless be pleased that there is to be no "third ticket" in the field this year. It simplifies the situation and makes it easier to have a straight fight on the issues now before the people. Both parties are in a fighting humor and prefer not to have anybody blundering around in the way. Each would rather hit a Gold Democrat (if he must be hit), in the ranks of the other than in a separate squad; and each is willing to take its chances of attracting the support of the voters who are left without a ticket.

The Gold Democrats are especially to be congratulated. The movement was, from the first, plainly doomed to failure, but it always requires some courage to admit failure. Now, however, they are well out of an uncomfortable position and can take their places in the ranks of the party that most nearly meets their views. There is room in this country for two political parties only. The rest are mere frills, and can serve no more practical purpose than to feed the empty vanity of leaders who are enabled to keep in the public eye by means of them.

The Republicans will doubtless contend that the mustering out of the Gold Democrats supports their assertion that the currency question is to be paramount in the campaign. The Democrats will be equally positive that this action was taken in view of the overshadowing importance of Imperialism. In fact, it probably shows merely that the men who supported Palmer and Buckner in 1896, are now hopelessly divided as to what is the paramount issue. Those who hold with Mr. Haldeman (the proprietor of the Louisville Courier-Journal), that "free America" is the issue rather than free silver, would have certainly declined to support a third ticket; those who hold the reverse were, no doubt, prepared, after four years cogitation, to unite with the Republicans and vote their sentiments direct. This is more courageous than shirking, and more honorable than masquerading in stolen political raiment.

The "Gold Democracy" is dead! Peace to its ashes!

THE NINTH AT TIEN TSIN.

Hon. Theodore Roosevelt to the contrary notwithstanding: war is not the chief business of a nation. It is at best a misfortune, and at worst is utter ruin. Nevertheless, when there is fighting to be done it is as necessary that it be well done as that anything else be well done. So long as war is a contingency that has to be met, it is natural and praiseworthy that a people should pride itself on its fighting qualities. Valor is not a thing to be either worshipped or despised; it is something to be appreciated, just as are intelligence and morality.

The Ninth Infantry ought never to have been ordered to Taku and Tien Tsin. There was neither authority nor warrant for sending it there. That was no affair of the Ninth's. It was ordered to go, and it went. Having gone, it is as much a matter of legitimate pride to Americans that it should have borne itself heroically as though it had been sent in pursuance of a formal and legal declaration of war. Its record in the bloody assaults upon the walls of the native city is one that is worthy of association with Yorktown, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg.

No less gratifying is the assurance that when the city was captured the American soldiers refused to take part in the looting and burning, remembering that they were in China as the representatives of a civilized people, not as mere marauders. There were no troops in the allied armies that had

more cause to cherish resentment than the Ninth, which had suffered so terribly in the fighting before the walls; but they kept their hands clean.

The announcement of General Dord, the British commander, that he was responsible for the blunder that cost the Ninth so dearly, has set right before his countrymen Colonel Liscum, and the officers under him. Whatever the rights or wrongs of the cause, it is established that the men of the Ninth Infantry bore themselves in accordance with the best traditions of the American army.

VIRGINIA'S PURE FOOD LAW.

The Staunton News calls attention to the fact that the pure food law passed by the last General Assembly and which went into effect on July 1st is a dead letter, because there was no appropriation made providing for the enforcement of the law. This is distinctly unfortunate, and does not wear a nice look on the face of it. It may have been a mere oversight, of course; but there are always a large number of manufacturing firms to which pure food laws are highly obnoxious, since these firms are engaged in marketing foods that are anything but pure, or wholesome. Hardly 50 per cent. of the foods put on the market are free from adulterants or preservatives, many of which are actually dangerous to the health of consumers, and which should not be allowed to be sold. In order to ascertain whether any food is pure, it is necessary to have an analysis made of it by expert chemists, and when it is recalled that thousands of brands of food are on the market, it is plain that the expense of collecting any analyzing samples is considerable. The pure food law without an appropriation is therefore as futile as it would have been without the enacting clause. This, however, is a matter that can and should be remedied by the next General Assembly. There is no consideration superior to the health of the citizens, and it is hardly worth while to expend millions for sanitary measures, if our people are to be poisoned three times a day, and with a choice assortment of toxins into the bargain.

RUSHING FOR THE CARS.

The Charleston News and Courier condemns what it terms the "silly" practice of rushing for the front car when the ferry boat comes in. The cars do not run to the ferry here, but the same phenomenon is noticeable every evening when the trains come in from Ocean View and Virginia Beach. Before the trains reach the station the passengers edge toward the exits, fill the steps and while the train is yet in motion, begin to drop off and dash for the cars. It is needless to say that the performance is risky. At neither of the stations, at the points where passengers begin to "jump for it," is the light sufficient at night to see clearly. The acrobatic passenger needs only to slip or stumble in the right (?) direction, and the train will do the rest. The only wonder is that nobody has been hurt as yet. Of course, the haste is sometimes explainable by the fact that the leisurely passenger has to stand when he reaches the street car; but even when the crowd is small, and accommodations ample the rush is quite as determined. And sooner or later there is going to be a tragedy.

Our British cousins are said to be greatly amused at Americans because they have swallowed Chinese stories as to the state of affairs at Peking. However that may be, the British islanders can be sure that Americans have ceased to swallow the stuff that comes from the English bureau of fabrication at Shanghai, and is colored in London to a tint that is expected to reconcile the United States to the cat's-paw role marked out for it by England. One taste of that sort of thing and the American "tumbled," he prefers his lie, if he must have them, done in the masterly Chinese manner.

A St. Louis man's life was saved by a bullet lodging in a cheap cheroot he carried in his pocket, and he had won the cheroot throwing balls at "negro heads" in a beer garden. This does a thing or two to sundry touching and pious anecdotes.

The 20,000 textile workers employed in the silk mills of Paterson, New Jersey, are idle, and they charge their misfortunes to the trusts. They likewise charge the trusts to the McKinley regime. The sequel is easy to guess.

For a party that is always "blowing" of its conservatism, Teddy and Our Splendid Scheme are a pretty heavy load and are in danger of overworking the explanation bureau.

The sapient meteorologists who laughed at the idea of the sun spots meaning hot weather have thoughtfully effaced themselves from the public eye.

The New York Tribune thinks the State should exterminate degenerates. Does the Tribune want to decimate the Negro?

It begins to seem a mere question of how many "champions of civil liberty" the Kentucky juries will have to hang.

Brooklyn borough is about to run out of water, and as Brooklyn is not Milwaukee, there is genuine alarm.

Both in Colombia and Venezuela considerable poisoning is getting done; but nobody is regulating them.

Was not Hon. Richard Harding Davis once accused of being the original shirt-waist man?

Apparently all that China stands in need of is a pig-tailed Napoleon.

NOTES AND OPINIONS.

GOING TOO FAST. (St. Louis Republic.)

President McKinley should refrain from making such declarations as that wherein, after discussing the most recent phases of the Chinese situation, he announced that "the United States will not declare war upon China on the present showing of facts, no matter what other Powers may do." It is for the Congress of the United States, and not Mr. McKinley, to say whether this Government will or will not declare war. The power to declare war is vested exclusively in Congress and is a power to which Mr. McKinley's predecessors in the White House have bowed with profound respect. Mr. McKinley is riding his hobby of Empire at too breakneck a rate of speed. He has not yet reached that point on the turnpike leading away from the Republic and its principles where he may with safety claim the prerogatives of the American Congress. He will reach it in time, if the American people sanction his surrender of the Republic to Empire, but the time is not yet. The President should curb his imperial ambitions, if only to make the more certain of their ultimate gratification.

CITIZENS, NOT SUBJECTS.

(New Orleans Picayune.)

The Democratic party has never been opposed to any measure of expansion that did not involve either a menace to their own liberties or a violation of the rights of others, but so far no territory has been acquired with the consent of that party without being incorporated as an integral part of the domain, directly under the joint control of the three co-ordinate branches of the Federal Government and all the people of any region thus acquired have been recognized and treated as citizens of the United States.

NO BUSINESS OF OURS.

(Philadelphia Times.)

The truth is that our government blundered into this imbroglio without knowing where it was going, and is blundering along without knowing where it is likely to come out. It has done no worse than the other governments, except that the whole proceeding was more distinctly at variance with its established policy, and it had more reasons to keep hands off. Whether the foreigners in Peking be alive or dead, safe or in peril, it seems now a reasonable assumption that they will not be rescued from Tien Tsin. They will be protected by the Chinese Government or they will not be protected at all, and if the allied armies ever arrive at Peking their business there will not be defending the legations, but arranging the government of China—or disputing over the fragments. This is not business for the army of the United States.

(From Norfolk Public Ledger.)

Admiral Kempf has proved himself not only a man of most admirable judgment, but a brave man as well, in his relation to the Chinese situation at Taku—by refusing to have any part in the attack upon the forts there. His sound judgment was evident in the fact that he recognized that he, as an officer of the United States, had no right to make war upon a friendly Power without orders from his own government, and, besides, it is by no means certain that such an attack was calculated to promote the safety of the American Minister at the Chinese capital. And his bravery was of that rare moral kind that enables a man to say "no" even though the world disapprove his decision. To decline to unite with all the other Powers on that occasion was an act of moral courage that has, we should say, seldom been excelled.

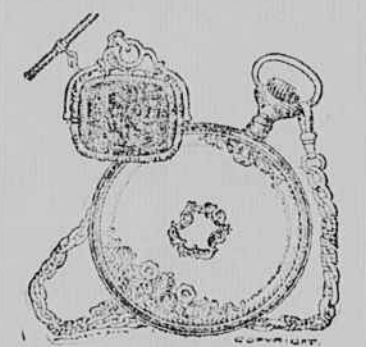
WHAT IS THE MISSION OF CIVILIZATION?

(Washington Post.)

According to Governor Roosevelt, as his views are expressed in his speech before the Republican National Clubs' League, it is the highest duty of civilization to abolish barbarism. He does not state what particular grades or degrees of civilization are charged with this duty, nor what forms or phases of barbarism are to be exterminated. That failure is somewhat confusing, for the various races, nationalities, peoples, and tribes present every variety of civilization, or the lack of it, from naked, cannibalistic savagery up to the standards of Western Europe and North America. If the Governor's idea of duty for this republic and for other nations in or near our class be correct, then the highest civilization must always be at war—not figuratively speaking, but in actual, blood-letting war, war that "is hell"—with all lower grades.

Mr. Roosevelt asks his countrymen to "remember that expansion does not bring war; it ultimately brings peace. It is of advantage to all, and especially to the people thereby lifted out of a savagery." He says "We should halt the advance of every civilized nation over barbarous people, so long as that advance is not made in some form prejudicial to the rest of mankind." It is not true that the advance of civilized nations over barbarous peoples "does not bring war." The reverse is almost invariably true, and it is the cruelest of all wars.

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My nose was tender above the bridge that using a handkerchief was painful. MY SLEEP WAS RESTLESS AND BROKEN BY BAD DREAMS AND WHEN I WOULD GET UP IN THE MORNING I WOULD FIND MUCUS IN MY THROAT WOULD KEEP ME AWAKE AN HOUR OR MORE. The itching in my ears was very annoying. At length I wrote a note to the doctor, and he came to see me. He consulted Dr. Frey, who stated that I HAD CATARRH OF THE NOSE, THROAT, STOMACH AND BOWELS. HE TOLD ME TO TAKE HIS MEDICINE UNDER HIS TREATMENT. THE MUCUS DISCHARGES CEASED, I FELT MY EXCELLENT SPIRITS, AND THE GOOD SLEEP SOUND AND REFRESHING. NO HEADACHES, NO DROPPING IN THE THROAT, NO COLD, ALL SORENESS ABOUT THE NOSE AND BOWELS ALL RIGHT. NO BUZZING IN THE EARS. IN FACT I FEEL LIKE ANOTHER MAN. I HAVE GAINED 15 POUNDS IN WEIGHT AND I URGE ANY ONE SUFFERING FROM Catarrh to try Dr. Frey.

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